

**Abstract**

The invention concerns an interface device for a fiberoptic communication network. The interface device comprises an electric circuit arrangement 32, a first receiving section 34 for receiving a first transceiver module 24 and a second receiving section 36 for receiving a second transceiver module 26. The interface device also comprises a switching unit 54 for switching said electric circuit arrangement between at least a first and a second state. Furthermore, the interface device includes a controller 56 arranged to automatically control the switching unit 54 in response to at least one control signal such that said first or second states are selected depending on whether at least one control signal is received indicating either that no transceiver module 26 is attached to said second receiving section 36 or that no optical signal above a certain signal level is received by a transceiver module 26 attached to said second receiving section 36. The invention also concerns methods of using such an interface device.

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(Fig 3)

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